AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 7, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

Central unit 50 also includes a processor, for example a microcontroller type processor, and memories. It connects to serial link 47 connected to monitoring unit 41. It further comprises a real-time timer ~~that allows~~ for date stamping the various ~~elements~~ events that are detected by local units 31, 32 of the site and transmitted by serial link 47.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 8, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

According to the invention, the system described further comprises means ~~that allow ensuring the update, management~~ for updating, managing, and querying ~~of~~ a maintenance record file for each piece of equipment 33.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 8, line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Furthermore, calculators 21, 22, and 23 are programmed ~~to be able~~ to receive this equipment maintenance data, process this data and store it in a respective database 14, designed for this purpose.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 9, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Local unit 31 can also include means ~~that allow a local or remote~~ for locally or remotely (through a telemaintenance link) querying of the contents of database 58 that stores the maintenance information of the corresponding equipment 33.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 9, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Identification device 56 is, for example, comprise ~~of~~ an electronic lock designed for contact and non contact detection; an electronic key code that identifies the maintenance technician, either using a reader with or without smart card and/or magnetic card contact that stores the technician's identification code o using an infrared or radio receiver designed to receive the data identifying the technician and transmitted using a remote control or command terminal 59. It can also

comprise a biometric recognition system such as voice recognition, digital fingerprint, or eyes can designed to recognize the identify of the technicians in charge of maintaining the equipment.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 11, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

Once this operation information is received, calculators 21 and 22 store this data in their respective databases 14. Moreover, calculators 21 and 22 include query functions ~~for this database that allow~~ to be applied to this database for extracting the maintenance record file of any given equipment 33; this is, the information collected in the database 14 regarding all the operations performed on the equipment, and statistics creation functions using the maintenance data of all the equipment thus monitored.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 11, line 32 with the following amended paragraph:

Calculators 21 and 22 further comprise database 14 information analysis means ~~that allow~~ for accurately evaluating whether maintenance company 1 respects its contractual commitments. For this purpose, analysis means are designed to control, in particular, the following: